

there together and considered it all to be laudable...

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: Yes.

SENATOR SCHMIT: ...and worthy of the support of the taxpayer?

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: Yes.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Okay. Well, thank you, Senator. Mr. President and members, I'm not going to take a position for or against the bill at this time. I think that Senator Vard Johnson has made some interesting points and it's an interesting position in which he places himself this year, one which is contrary to one which he has been in a number of times in the past. So, of course, he was in a different position last...yesterday than he has ever been in the past also. Kind of...kind of ingratiating to me to see him in that position and maybe his enlightenment has come after a couple of elections. I would suggest that perhaps there ought to be some assistance for Ak-Sar-Ben. I'm not just sure how much. I know that the bill, of course, provides some assistance for the small tracks. And I just want to point out that I have a bill, LB 708, which I believe will be of major assistance to the track, to all of the tracks, and, in fact, I think had we enacted that bill several years ago, certainly would have perhaps placed us in a better position than we are today. I would like to ask Senator Vard Johnson one more question, if he would please yield.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Vard.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Senator Vard...

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: Yes.

SENATOR SCHMIT: ...does the Ak-Sar-Ben management have any other plans to attempt to try to improve their position other than just to relieve the taxes?

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: Yes, they do.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Would you outline them briefly, please, very briefly.

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: Well, the plan that they have talked about with me is one that involves yourself, Senator Schmit.